VANCOUVER
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Monday, June 13, 2011
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News worth sharing.

On the verge

- Vancouver could hoist the Stanley Cup for the first time in the franchise's 40-year history with a win over the Boston Bruins tonight
- Matt Kieltkya speaks with Canucks legend Stan (Steamer) Smyl about the final push and the once-in-a-career opportunity {page 3}

▶ Fin, the Vancouver Canucks mascot, holds a bear's head following the Canucks' 1-0 win over the Boston Bruins in Game 5 of the Stanley Cup final on Friday.

JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

CHICKEN QUESADILLAS WITH AN AVOCADO KICK
{page 16}

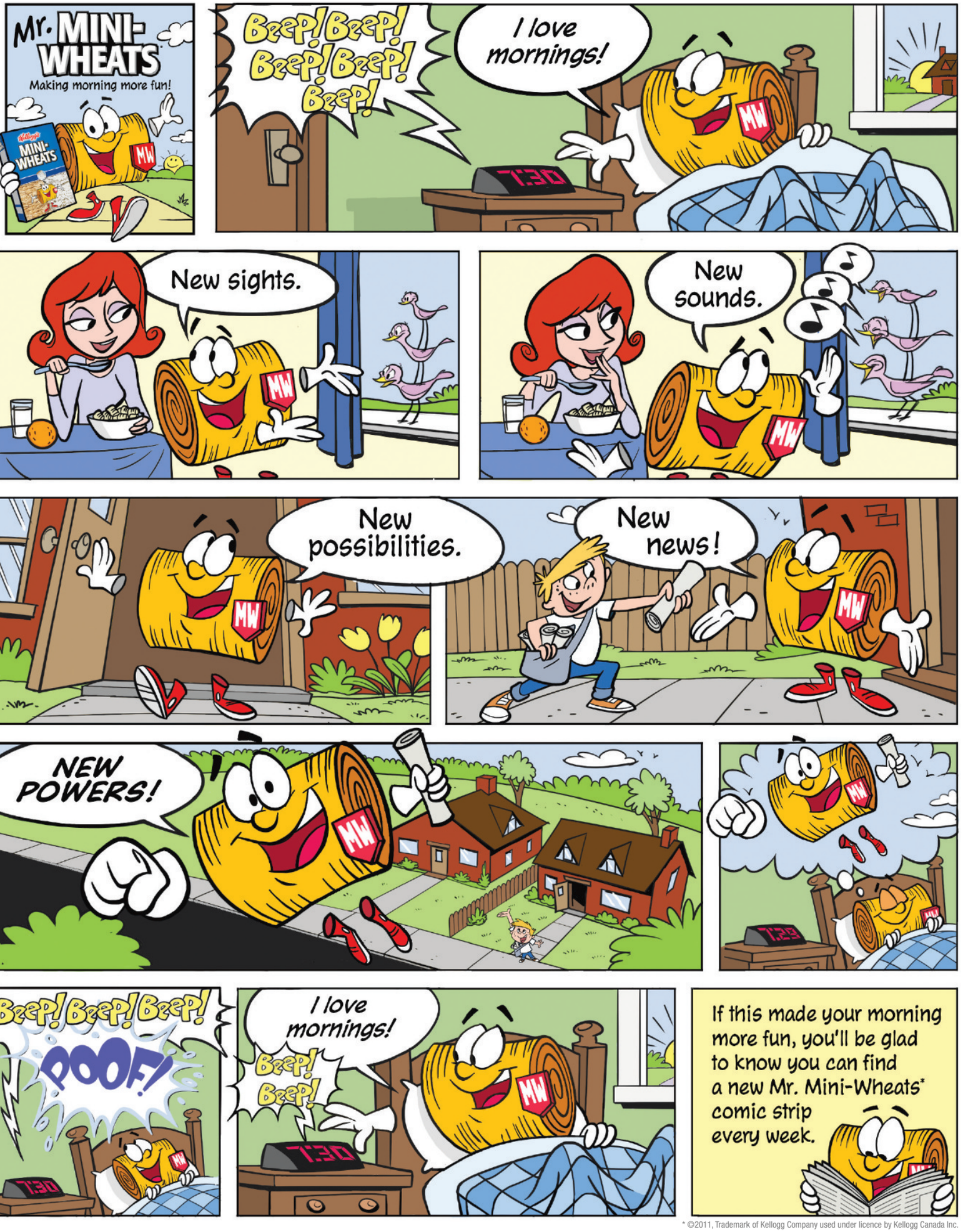
Local

'Good, clean fun' in Burnaby

Players of all ages take part in street-hockey tourney {page 4}

Books hot off press

10 picks for your summer reading list {page 11}



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Kelowna man dies while car surfing

A 25-year-old Kelowna man was killed in what police are referring to as a "car-surfing" accident.

The CBC reports the man was standing on the roof of a vehicle being driven by a 27-year-old man when it drove off an embankment at the side of a forest service road near West Kelowna.

He died at the scene. The RCMP is considering charging the driver with criminal negligence causing death. METRO

Woman murdered in city's sixth homicide

Vancouver police are investigating the city's sixth homicide of the year after a woman was found murdered in an apartment in the 7400 block of Fraser Street Friday night.

The woman, in her 30s, has not been publicly identified as police attempt to contact her family.

Based on what investigators have learned, police don't believe there's a risk to public safety involved. Any witnesses are asked to contact police.

METRO

For more news, metronews.ca/vancouver

DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ The Vancouver Canucks' Jannik Hansen signs autographs for fans before boarding a flight to Boston at Vancouver International Airport on Saturday.

Canucks playing for history in Game 6

- Canucks could hoist Stanley Cup with win in Boston
- Vancouver team going for its first championship

MATT KIELTYKA
@METRONEWS.CA

History will be made.

The NHL's playoff campaign has been pushing the line on fans since the playoffs began, but now the Vancouver Canucks are on the verge of making it a reality.

The Canucks have the chance to claim their first-ever Stanley Cup and put an exclamation point on their 40-year history with a win in Boston tonight.

They lead the Bruins 3-2 in the series heading into Game 6.

More than 100,000 crowded the streets of downtown Vancouver Friday in celebration of the Canucks' Game 5 win and now that the victory is within reach, there's an air of excitement over the hockey-mad city.

"It's really exciting," said Canucks legend Stan Smyl, who played for Vancouver in the 1982 final. "Even during Game 5, you could feel all the passion and intensity in the city."

The fan favourite has been with the organization for 32 of its 40-year existence and thinks it's time to give fans something to celebrate.

But he knows it won't be easy.

"No one is just going to hand (the Stanley Cup) over to you," Smyl said. "If you think of it as a mountain, we're still at the base and that last part to the top is the hardest."

In all his years playing for Vancouver (from 1978 to 1991), Smyl only got the chance to play in the Stanley Cup final once, in 1982.

He said the current Canucks team knows this could be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

"I only got one chance, and a lot of these players realize it may never happen again," he said. "This is the hardest part to get what they want, and it could be over (Monday)."

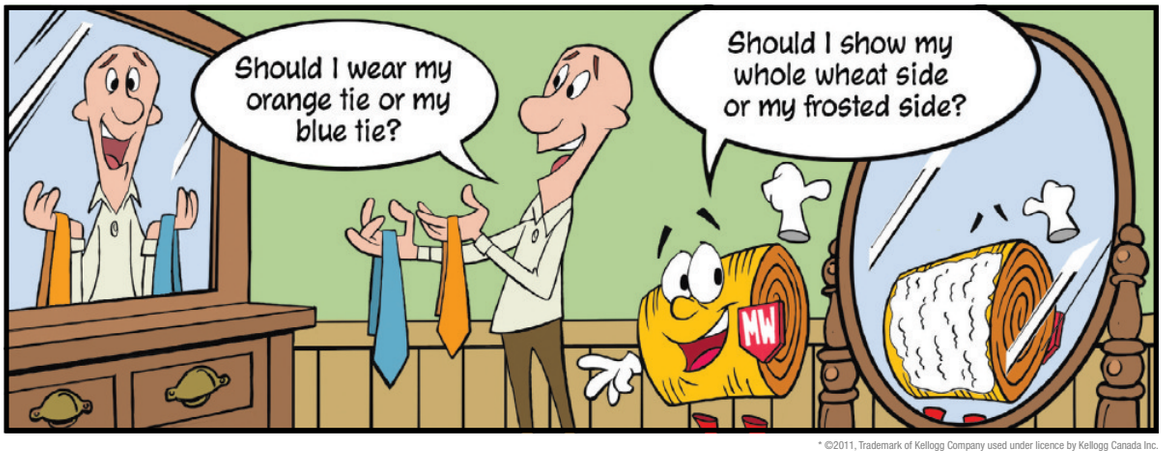
1 news

Latest post asserts lesbian Syrian blogger was a hoax written by a man. Scan code for story.

To scan 2D barcodes in Metro, download the free ScanLife app at 2dscan.com.

On the web at metronews.ca

Boston and Vancouver: A tale of two cities full of hockey fans in very different moods. Video at metronews.ca



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Street-hockey lovers Play On!

More than 400 teams took part at Metrotown yesterday

SAHARA GIANNONE
VANCOUVER@METRONEWS.CA

OSAHARA GIANNONE/FOR METRO

▶ Street-hockey players at Metrotown yesterday.

Players of all ages came out to participate in Canada's largest street-hockey tournament this weekend in Burnaby.

The two-day Play On! tournament was open to all with divisions for different ages and levels of ability.

"It's great for the community because people come out from around the Lower Mainland to play competitive street hockey and to have some good clean fun," said Taylor Orson, 21, from Langley.

"I'm having a great time, and there is a really good, family-friendly environment," said Trevor McManus, 25, from Surrey. "There are people of all ages playing everywhere, and that's really cool to see."

Chris Lee, Burnaby tournament director, said that the event has continued to grow over the past three years.

This year there were 401 teams at the Burnaby location.

The Hockey Night in Canada's Play On! tournament is held in 18 Canadian cities across the country and since its inception in 2009 has had over 520,000 participants.

Canadian. KO

▶ Sam Stout, of London, Ont., celebrates after knocking out Yves Edwards, of Austin, Texas, in the first round of their lightweight bout at UFC 131 in Vancouver on Saturday.

DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Celebrating the 'nasty' at UFC 131

UFC President Dana White tweeted that Stout's knockout was one of the "nastiest (KO's) I've ever seen." UFC 131, held at Rogers Arena, also saw heavyweight Junior dos Santos defeat Shane Carwin in the third round. In so doing, dos Santos, earned a shot at champion Cain Velasquez.

Dragon Boat Festival roars across False Creek

Hockey wasn't the only sport that had the city buzzing this weekend — the 23rd annual Dragon Boat Festival attracted an estimated 100,000 spectators to False Creek, as well as more than 5,000 dragon boaters.

"This is the largest (dragon-boating festival) outside of Hong Kong," said Anita Webster of Dragon Boat B.C. "People are used to being out. They're remembering the Olympics. They like big groups. They're celebrating together, and we're glad to be part of it."

Two thousand years after the first Chinese dragon boaters rowed at the summer solstice to ensure bountiful harvests, modern-day boaters participate for a variety of reasons.

Abreast in a Boat is a team of breast-cancer survivors that was originally created by Dr. Don Mackenzie to challenge a myth that women should avoid strenuous upper-body exercise after breast surgery.

"He got together a group of really courageous women who formed the first breast-cancer dragon-boat team just as a research project, and these women didn't want to quit," explained team member Sandi Moffatt.

Others, such as Ryan Johnston of Anniemaniacs, out of Portland, Ore., are in it for the sport.

"It's a good way to exercise, a good way to stay in shape. It's something to do that's competitive and just fun," he said.

DAVID PROCTOR

Local dragons

Vancouver's festival is the world's largest outside of Hong Kong.

▶ Organizers estimate over 5,000 rowers and 100,000 spectators attended.

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Urban postal strikes roll on

Unionized Canada Post workers set for rotating strikes in 10 more cities No deal reached on weekend

A weekend of negotiations failed to produce a settlement to end rotating strikes by Canada Post's urban workers.

Canada Post spokesman Jon Hamilton said management told union negotiators that the job action has succeeded only in pushing customers away.

Hamilton said the post office feels that those customers won't return until they're sure reliable service can be provided.

He repeated the post office mantra that the union representing the workers is making unrealistic demands.

The Canadian Union of Postal Workers said on Friday that it would end the strikes if the previous collective agreement was reinstated, something the post office rejected.

Postal workers in Red Deer spent the weekend on strike and employees in 10 cities across the country. will walk off the job next.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Deliveries cut

- **Blaming mail volumes** that have fallen by half, Canada Post said that from next week delivery in most cities will drop to three times a week — on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.
- **Rural Canada will continue** to have daily service because those carriers are covered by a separate labour contract.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Record. Height

▶ Junrey Balawing, 18, jokes on the microphone after he was officially declared the world's shortest living man by Guinness World Records at an event in the Southern Philippines yesterday.

BULLIT MARQUEZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Filipino is world's shortest man

Junrey Balawing stands 59.7 centimetres tall. The previous record-holder for the world's shortest living man measured 67.1 centimetres.

CRA grades slipping

Last fall, the Canada Revenue Agency said it was doing a stellar job in responding to written requests from taxpayers about GST and HST. But that claim has withered under the scrutiny of internal auditors.

In a recent annual performance report to Parliament, the CRA said it met a 45-day response deadline 93 per cent of the time. Internal auditors graded it 74 per cent. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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EXTREME ENVIRONMENTS

Studying mental hardships of High Arctic

As Canada asserts its Arctic sovereignty, the military wants to know whether people working in dark, isolated outposts are prone to mental breakdown.

And a recent report for the scientific arm of the Department of National Defence says the answers may be found in early expeditions to Antarctica, where polar explorers suffered a raft of psychological problems a century ago.

"Early Antarctic research identified the 'winter-over syndrome,' comprised of depression, anxiety, irritability, hostility, insomnia, and inability to concentrate," says the newly released report.

"Two unique phenomena have also been noted. One is 'Big Eye,' chronic insomnia; the other is 'Long Eye,' a vacant stare denoting that the individual is ... unaware of the surrounding environment and activities."

The findings are part of a March 31 study commissioned by Toronto-based Defence Research and Development Canada, and obtained by The Canadian Press under the Access to Information Act.

The government scientist who ordered the research says the aim is to help personnel assigned to posts in the High Arctic, such as remote CFS Alert on the northeastern tip of Ellesmere Island. The RCMP, Environment Canada and other departments regularly assign staff to this extreme environment, in addition to the military.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

'Resilience and recovery'

First photos of Gabrielle Giffords show congresswoman smiling, few signs of gunshot wound She could be released from rehab facility this month

Images of a smiling U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords were posted early yesterday on her Facebook page, two photos that show her with shorter, darker hair but few signs that she suffered a gunshot wound to the head.

The photos were taken May 17 outside the Houston rehabilitation facility TIRR Memorial Hermann, where Giffords has been undergoing intensive treatment since she was wounded five months ago at a meet-and-greet event with constituents. Six people died and a dozen others were wounded in the Jan. 8 attack in Tucson, Ariz.

Since then, access to the Arizona congresswoman has been tightly controlled. Until yesterday, no clear images had been released.

SOUTHWESTPHOTOBANK.COM, P.K. WEIS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ This May 17 photo of U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords, left, was posted to her public Facebook page by her aides yesterday. The woman in the background is her mother, Gloria Giffords.

Giffords spokesman C.J. Karamargin said staff members released the photos yesterday to help satisfy "intense interest in the congresswoman's appearance."

The photos capture her ecstatic mood following her astronaut husband's space-shuttle launch in May.

"She got to see her husband successfully ride a rocket into space," Karamargin said. "So who wouldn't be pleased?"

He added: "I think this photo speaks volumes about the congresswoman's resilience and recovery.

"It shows someone in very good spirits, someone who is happy, someone who has a very positive attitude."

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▶ Jessica Ernst, an oil-patch consultant, alleges that EnCana broke multiple provincial laws and regulations and contaminated a shallow aquifer with natural gas and toxic industry-related chemicals. Ernst burns off some of the methane that is in her well water in Rosebud, Alta., on June 2.

No fracking way?

Alberta woman says natural-gas fracking to blame for flaming well water Method is an industry mainstay

Jessica Ernst fills the empty water-cooler bottle from her garden hose. The liquid bubbles and hisses like club soda and a thick white cloud floats to the top.

Something isn't right with the well water on her Alberta property.

What happens when she removes the cap from the bottle and drops in a lit wooden match is even more disconcerting. There's a loud poof and a flash of blue flame. Ernst quickly snatches her hand away.

"I've done that hundreds, probably thousands, of times and I can't help but move," she apologizes.

She repeats the procedure. This time, it's a yellow flame that lasts a little bit longer. Ernst jokes that it's her magic trick. "I might just have to take this act on the road to pay for my legal fees," she laughs.

Ernst has filed a multi-million-dollar lawsuit against energy-giant EnCana, Alberta Environment and the Energy Resources Conservation Board in which she accuses them of negligence and unlawful activities.

The 54-year-old environmental consultant in the oil and gas industry blames her water problems on shallow gas wells that were drilled near Rosebud, Alta., eight years ago using a method called hydraulic fracturing, also known as fracking. It involves blasting water, chemicals and sand deep underground to break up coal formations and release natural gas.

The oil and gas industry defends the long-standing and increasingly common practice as a highly regulated and safe way to tap gas supplies that are otherwise hard to reach.

But controversy swirls, fuelled by lawsuits such as the one Ernst has filed and by mass media attention such as the 2010 documentary film Gasland, which focused on communities in the United States affected by natural gas drilling.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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The heat is on in Air Canada talks

Strike deadline is just after midnight tonight Management has backup plan ready, in case workers walk

Ottawa has urged both sides in the Air Canada labour dispute to reach a negotiated agreement as soon as possible.

Lisa Raitt, the labour minister, said in a weekend statement that she is concerned about the impact of a work stoppage on Canadians and on Canada's economic recovery.

The Canadian Auto Workers, the union representing some 3,800 customer-service and sales staff, issued a 72-hour strike notice Friday, which means job action can begin at 12:01 a.m. tomorrow.

"Management has been trained to provide assistance at the airports that would be affected."

DUNCAN DEE, AIR CANADA'S CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER, ON THE AIRLINE'S BACKUP PLAN IF WORKERS VOTE TO STRIKE

Negotiations continued through the weekend and both sides said they hope to reach a deal.

A key sticking point in the talks is a management proposal to change pension plans for new hires.

Jamie Ross, president of the CAW local that represents the employees, said yesterday they are prepared to negotiate right up until the deadline.

The threat of job action has sparked concern among travellers. In a statement yesterday, Air Canada said it has a backup plan to continue operating a full schedule.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market moment

PRICES AS OF 5 P.M. FRIDAY

TSX	Dollar	Oil	Natural gas 1,000 cu ft	Gold
– 171.74 (13,084)	– 0.54¢ (102.22¢ US)	– $2.64 US ($99.29 US)	$4.734 US (+ 6¢ US)	$1, 529.20 (– $13.50)

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WINNING IS ONLY THING THAT MATTERS

URBAN COMPASS

PAUL SULLIVAN
METRO VANCOUVER

At this point, we are all Canucks.

Whether we like it or not.

An epidemic of Canucks Fever has invaded every nook and cranny of the Lower Mainland, and spread to the Island and the Interior.

There's no place to hide. Back in April or May, you could be indifferent to our plucky band of Scandinavian, French Canadian and American Canucks, but if they haven't got you by now, you're from Boston. Or Calgary.

Maybe you just really, really want it to be over so you can pack up the Ryan Kesler jersey and the blue-and-green face paint and get on with summer. It gets hot wearing that jersey on the beach. Even in Vancouver.

Well, pilgrim, it could be all over tonight, as your Canucks could be the world champs by 8 p.m., local time.

"It can't come too soon for me. I haven't been able to watch since the Chicago series; instead, I follow the game with one eye shut on my NHL app and monitor the atmosphere for honking and cheering."

Or, depending on which team boarded the plane to Boston over weekend, we could have to wait until Wednesday to assume the mantel of global hockey supremacy.

If it's the A Team, we can look forward to brilliant playmaking and goaltending, ferocious hitting and single-minded determination. Or not, if the practice squad went to Boston instead.

That's the only explanation for what happened in games 3 and 4, when Canucks Fever turned into the bone-numbing chill we've had to endure from this team from time to time.

It ain't easy being a Canucks fan. We're literally skating on thin ice with this team, waiting to drown without a trace in some foreign arena (or even here at home). It doesn't matter if we score more goals, give up fewer, win the Presidents' Trophy, whatever, just when things finally seem to be going our way, the boys go into a collective coma and lose 8-1.

I mean, where did that come from? Canuck lag?

Anyway, it will all be over — for sure — Wednesday. It can't come too soon for me. I haven't been able to watch since the Chicago series; instead, I follow the game with one eye shut on my NHL app and monitor the atmosphere for honking and cheering. It's just too stressful to watch that giant guy harass my goalie or watch Henrik Sedin absolutely under all circumstances refuse to do anything but pass to his brother.

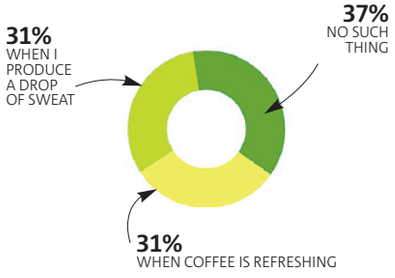
But, whatever happens tonight or Wednesday, it's been a fantastic season, and it doesn't really matter who wins ... wait a minute. What am I talking about? Of course it matters.

Go Canucks Go! And bring home the Stanley Cup … tonight!

metro life panel

Register at metrolifepanel.ca and take the quick poll

How hot is too hot in the summer?



Local tweets

- **@VancouverPD:** Drinking in public: $230. Peeing in public: $230. Watching a playoff game with thousands of new friends: priceless. #VPD, #Canucks
- **@D6MERIT:** Through this future magnifying glass, you will see the stanley cup champs. #canucks #beardofdestiny http://yfrog.com/h226fxuj
- **@FarhanLaljiTSN:** AV says #Kesler is fine and he just gave him the day off. Will play tomorrow, as expected. #Canucks #bringithome
- **@Coach_AV:** I support my goalie's comments and further to it by say that it would've been an easy save for Dan Cloutier too #Canuck
- **@BCSportsHall:** Whitecaps' Eric Hassli scored one of the best goals EVER last night! http://fb.me/OIcvFn6y
- **@RichardMotzkin:** Incredible equalizer by Eric Hassli tonight, your MLS Goal of the Year. #skill
- **@lilmissshellz:** #onemorewin and the @VanCanucks are the STANLEY CUP CHAMPIONS!

Worth mentioning

LONDON. Scientists are quickly combing the DNA of the killer bacteria behind the world's worst E. coli outbreak to find clues about how to treat patients and prevent future epidemics.

So far, one strain from a German patient has been sequenced by Chinese and German scientists. While the genetic information is preliminary, experts say there are a few hints about where the bacteria came from and why it might be so lethal.

The E. coli causing Europe's massive outbreak is likely the product of another strain first detected a decade ago in Germany, but with some dangerous mutations, experts say.

Because E. coli is constantly evolving, it is riddled with genes swapped from other strains found in animals and humans, giving it countless opportunities to acquire something lethal.

So far, the bug has killed at least 35 people and sickened more than 3,000, including several hundred who have developed life-threatening kidney failure.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cartoon by Michael de Adder

WEIRD NEWS

Another twist on definition of the arts

Getting a lap dance isn't the same as taking in a ballet, so an alcohol-free strip club will have to pay the tax man, a New York state court has ruled.

Four Appellate Division justices agreed with a state tax appeals commission's earlier finding that dances onstage or in private rooms at the club Nite Moves in suburban Albany, N.Y., don't qualify for a state tax exemption as "dramatic or musical arts performances."

Nite Moves contested a tax bill of nearly $125,000 plus interest on lap dances and admission fees stemming from a 2005 audit. Its attorney, W. Andrew McCullough said Friday the club has a later, larger bill it is also challenging, and that he would probably appeal the Appellate Division ruling.

McCullough said the impact of the ruling probably won't be widespread since most establishments featuring exotic dancers as entertainment are bars mainly selling alcohol where other tax rules apply. "We admit the ballet is a little different and maybe a little more finely tuned," McCullough said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Hot summer reads

From perennial summer favourites to a touch of fantasy to books made even more frightening because they're true — we've got the perfect lit picks for your beach bag

DOROTHY ROBINSON
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA
METRO WORLD NEWS IN NEW YORK
WITH ADDITIONAL REPORTING BY NICHOLAS LIM

ISTOCK IMAGES

▶ Nothing beats a great read that's hot off the press.

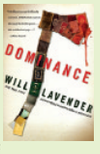
The Sportsman: Unexpected Lessons from an Around-the-World Sports Odyssey
Author: Dhani Jones
Release Date: June 7
Dhani Jones has done it all. He's an NFL linebacker, the star of Travel Channel's Dhani Tackles the Globe, a poet, a photographer and a bow-tie entrepreneur, and now he adds writer to the list with his new travelogue/memoir, The Sportsman.

The Next Wave: On the Hunt for Al Qaeda's American Recruits
Author: Catherine Herridge
Release Date: June 12
Here's a truly terrifying beach read: We've finally nabbed bin Laden, but as author and Fox News reporter Herridge claims, the next wave of terrorists aren't coming from some far away foreign country — they're being born and raised in the U.S.

One Summer
Author: David Baldacci
Release Date: June 14
It wouldn't be summer without a David Baldacci novel, but One Summer is a huge departure from his regular shoot-'em-up thrillers. (Don't believe me? Check out the lighthouse on the cover of the book jacket.) Set on the oceanfront in South Carolina, One Summer presents a moving story about family — no gunfire involved.

Carte Blanche
Author: Jeffery Deaver
Release Date: June 14
The Ian Fleming estate picked best-selling author Jeffery Deaver to carry on the 007 lineage. And in his first work as the anointed Bond chronicler, Carte Blanche, Deaver updates Bond to be an Afghan war vet with gadgets galore working for a super-secret, post-9-11 organization. But don't worry — this "new" Bond still gets the ladies.

Flashback
Author: Dan Simmons
Release Date: July 1
This thriller is set in the near future, where a bankrupt America is dangerously addicted to a drug that allows its population to relive the best moments and memories of the past. Simmons deftly explores how you can lose your future to your past and the inertia that can result from an addiction.



Dominance: A Novel
Author: Will Lavender
Release Date: July 5
Former professor Richard Aldiss decides, via a night class broadcast from his jail cell, to find the murderer of two of his former graduate students — a crime he was convicted of 12 years ago.
But then, one of his students is killed in the same way as the previous victims. But then, one of his new students is killed in the same manner as the previous victims.

Then Came You
Author: Jennifer Weiner
Release Date: July 12
This summer, a more grown-up Weiner (In Her Shoes, Best Friends Forever) tackles the heavier themes of surrogacy, parental rights and the definitions of motherhood via four distinct women in her latest novel, Then Came You.

Girls in White Dresses
Author: Jennifer Close
Release Date: Aug. 9
So many books aimed at 25- to 35-year-old women say they perfectly capture the angst and soaring joys of post-college life, but Girls in White Dresses truly does. Told in intersecting stories of a group of friends, Close is able to nail the complexity of the times — who to date, what job to take and what to wear to the endless weddings.

A Stolen Life: A Memoir
Author: Jaycee Dugard
Release Date: July 12
Jaycee Lee Dugard needs no introduction.
Even the People magazine news articles about her, which only lightly touch on her 18 years in captivity by Phillip and Nancy Garrido, read like gripping thrillers. So this, a detailed memoir of her ordeal, will be one can't-miss summer read.

A Dance with Dragons: A Song of Ice and Fire: Book Five
Author: George R.R. Martin
Release Date: July 12
Fan boys the world over (and the millions of new recruits thanks to the hugely popular HBO adaptation) have been waiting for Book five from the Song of Ice and Fire series for over six years.
On July 12, the wait is over over when Dance of Dragons is released to the hungry hoards.

2 scene

Scene in brief

Hollywood's summer box-office streak has cooled a bit with a $37 million opening weekend for J.J. Abrams and Steven Spielberg's sci-fi tale Super 8. It was a healthy but unremarkable launch for the movie centred on teen filmmakers and an alien entity. After a string of blockbuster debuts, Hollywood's overall revenues dipped for the first time in a month.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Decades after M-A-S-H, the future of Cpl. Klinger's beloved Tony Packo's hot dogs is in doubt. Scan code for story.

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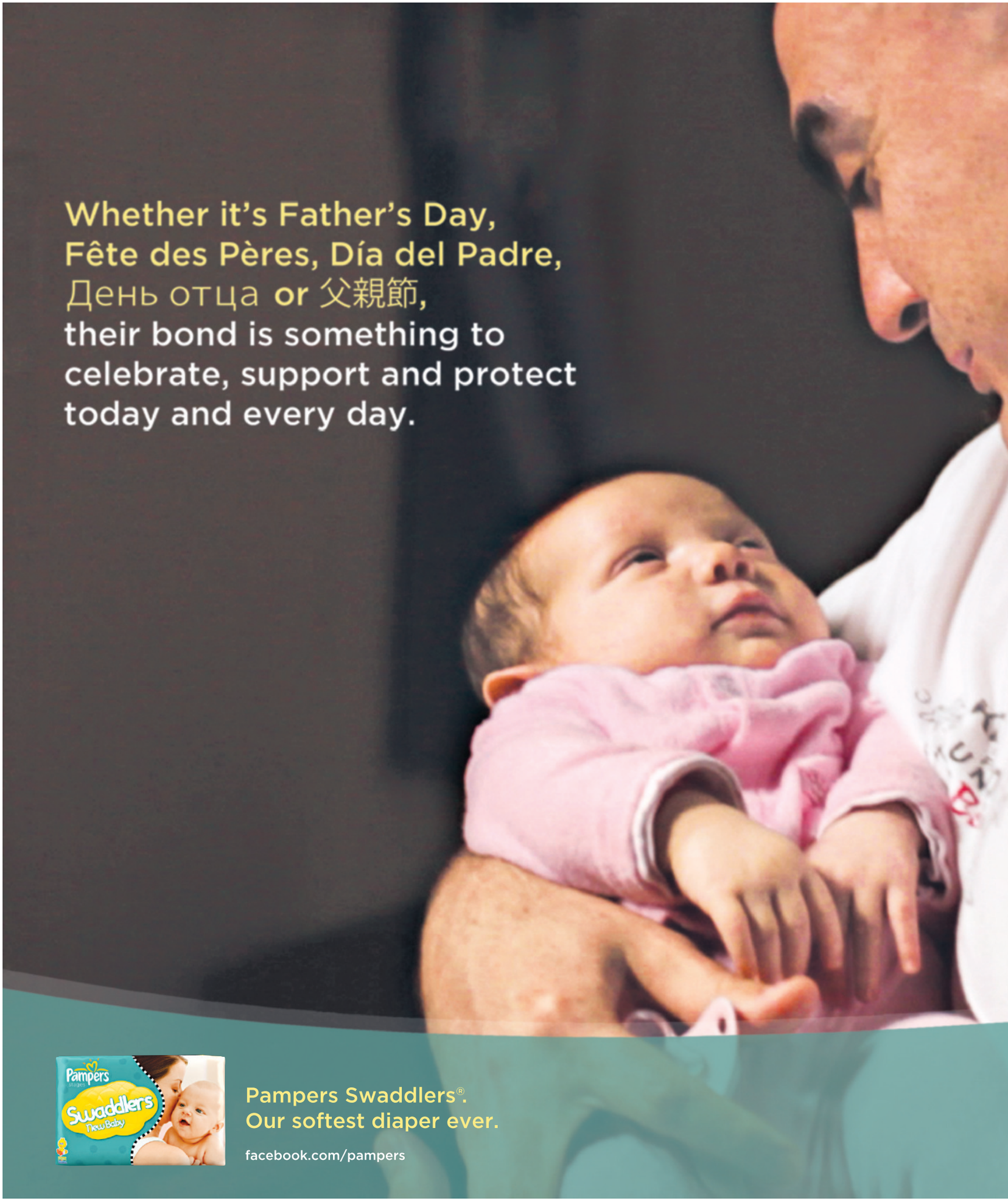
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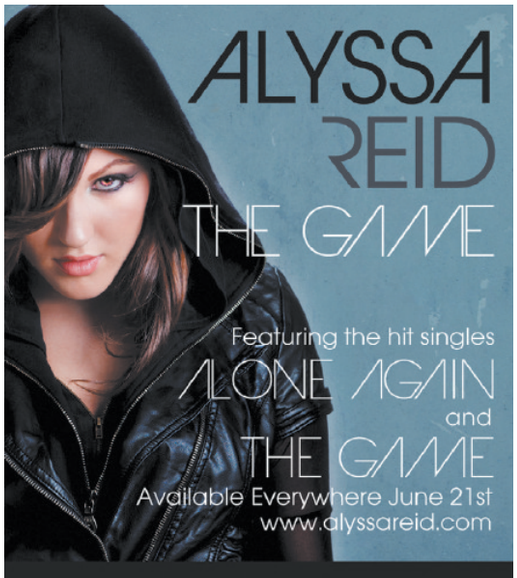

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Guess who the Olsen twins are linked to now

Justin, Kanye romantically involved with sisters, according to reports

LARRY BUSACCA/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Mary-Kate and Ashley Olsen

Mary-Kate and Ashley Olsen have both been turning heads lately thanks to the men they've been spending time with.

First, Ashley was reportedly spotted at several events with Justin Timberlake, according to Us Weekly.

While Timberlake's rep insists the two are just friends, a source insists, "They are hooking up."

And now Mary-Kate has been hitting the town with rapper Kanye West, according to E! Online. The two hit up West's birthday party at a New York City nightclub, where eyewitnesses claim they were seen kissing. METRO

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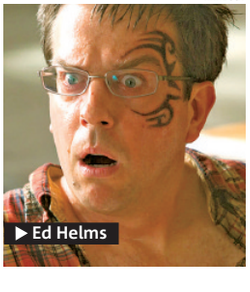
Much fuss over tattoo

It looks like tattoo artist S. Victor Whitmill may earn some satisfaction from Warner Bros. after all.

The artist, who designed Mike Tyson's famous face tattoo, sued the studio for copyright infringement over its use on Ed Helms' face in The Hangover Part II. And now the studio is looking to settle things, according to Entertainment Weekly. "If the parties are unable to resolve their dispute, Warner Bros. does not intend to make any use of the allegedly infringing tattoo after the film ends its run in the theatres," studio lawyers say. "Warner Bros. will digitally alter the film (for the DVD release) to substitute a different tattoo on Ed Helms' face." METRO

HANDOUT



▶ Ed Helms

Of fathers lost and found

Estrangements can make Father's Day a quiet day for many families, but reunions can be oh so sweet Here are stories of lives touched by fathers being reunited with their kids

Amy's story

Amy, 39, always knew she was adopted from a private orphanage in Taiwan soon after her birth.

Her adoptive parents, Paul and Marjorie Ropp from the U.S. were living in Taiwan at the time. They had met Amy's birth father as part of the adoption process in 1972. He was a building custodian devastated by the death of his wife from complications during Amy's birth.

Amy's parents shared with her what they knew of her birth story, but none of it mattered to her growing up. It was only in 1994, after she gave birth to a son, that Amy grew interested in finding her birth father.

All Amy had to go on was an old address her birth father had left behind when he relinquished her nearly 40 years ago. As the search went on, the Ropps enlisted the aid of friends who ran an orphanage in Taiwan about an hour's drive from where Amy was born. The friends asked for help from two police officers who had passed through their orphanage doors as children. The search moved quickly and Zhen-yi Wu — Amy's birth father — turned up.

Around Christmas in 2009, Amy met her birth family. "I just hugged them all," she said. "They said, 'We've been waiting 40 years.'"

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MARK SHAW, TOM DAY/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

From left: James Morrison (Marni's husband), Wen-ying Lu (Mark Shaw's wife), Mark Shaw (Marni's birth father), Marni Morrison, 19-year-old Allison Fuglestad (Marni's daughter), 12-year-old Lucy Fuglestad (Marni's daughter).

In 2008, Marni Morrison's world turned upside down.

That's the year she decided to contact her birth mother, who told her that contrary to her adoption file, her birth father was very much alive.

"I said, 'what are you talking about?' because in my mind he had been dead all that time," said the 42-year-old mother of two daughters, ages 19 and 12. "I'm still trying to get it through my head that he's alive."

Marni grew up in suburban Minneapolis and lives in Red Wing, Minn. She was adopted at birth, the little sister of three much-older brothers born to her adoptive parents.

She'd had access to her adoption file since turning 18, but had no interest in looking at it until after becoming a mother herself, when she felt the need to check on potential health issues for her children.

She didn't find any health worries. Instead, she stumbled on a trail of lies. The file included a letter written by her birth mother in 1969 that said both her birth parents were medical students who'd planned to marry, but her birth father died in a motorcycle accident, "and it was too hard for her to keep me so she put me up for adoption," Marni said.

None of it was true, but she didn't know that until she found her birth mother and they spoke for the first time. "She said, 'Your birth father not dead. He's a lawyer in Illinois.'"

Marni said her mother wrote the letter in an era when single mothers were often pressured to give up their babies or risk ruining their lives.

Marni and her husband, James, Googled the name her birth mother had given them for her birth father, Mark Shaw.

Two people popped up, but only one was in the right age range. But they dropped the hunt when her adoptive dad got sick. He passed away in July 2009. "He had been a rock my whole life," she said.

Nine months later, James came across a book written by someone named Mark Shaw as he searched online for advice on how to publish a play. He clicked on the author's website and saw a photo was a man with the same gap in his teeth as his wife.

James sent Shaw an email asking if he had practiced law in Illinois around the time of Marni's birth. The answer was yes. The hunch was confirmed by a paternity test, and father and child now see each other every month.

"I've been in a daze for the last year," Marni said. "We recently updated our insurance policy and I can offer all my information now. I've never been able to do that."

As for Mark Shaw, he said he barely knew Marni's mother.

"This was the 1960s. I was moving around like I have my whole life — so fast," the 65-year-old author, legal analyst and seminary graduate said tearfully.

He welcomed Marni, her husband and his newfound grandchildren with open arms. "I had always dreamed of being a father but just believed it wasn't going to happen," said Shaw, who is married and lives in Superior, Colo. "I look at this as the gift of a lifetime." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

3 life

Father of the year

In recognition of his extraordinary life, Walter Gretzky, is being honoured as Canada's 2011 Father of the Year by Doro, a world leader in easy-to-use cell phones and devices designed especially for seniors.

Gretzky raised five children in his hometown of Brantford, Ont., inspiring and mentoring his son Wayne to become one of the greatest hockey players in the world. METRO

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Quesadillas with an avocado twist

These chicken quesadillas are kicked up with avocado for a tasty and fresh take on the Mexican favourite

THE CANADIAN PRESS H/O

▶ By adding avocados, these quesadillas get a fresh makeover.

Don't be discouraged by the number of ingredients in this recipe for Mexican quesadillas. The recipe comes together in 40 minutes and is served with avocado citrus cream.

For a warm weather party, this will serve eight guests and it is worth the preparation.

Ingredients:

Chicken Quesadillas

- 375 ml (1 1/2 cups) shredded roasted chicken
- 175 ml (3/4 cup) canned black beans, drained
- 1 bunch green onions, white and light green parts only, thinly sliced
- 1 bunch cilantro, roughly chopped
- 45 ml (3 tbsp) minced, canned chipotle chilies
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) red wine vinegar
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) extra-virgin olive oil
- 5 ml (1 tsp) salt
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) freshly ground black pepper
- 375 ml (1 1/2 cups) grated Mexican manchego cheese
- 250 ml (1 cup) grated panela cheese
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) grated cotija cheese
- 4 flour tortillas (each 25 cm/10 inches in diameter)
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) unsalted butter, melted
- 1 1/2 ripe, fresh avocados seeded and cut into 5-mm (1/4-inch) slices

Avocado Citrus Cream

- 1 ripe fresh avocado, seeded, peeled and quartered
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) light sour cream
- 1 lime, juiced
- 1/2 orange, juiced
- Salt and black pepper, to taste

Preparation:

1. Quesadillas: In a mixing bowl, combine chicken, black beans, onions, cilantro, chilies, vinegar, oil, salt and pepper. Let sit for 20 minutes to blend flavours.
2. In a bowl, mix cheeses together.
3. Lay tortillas on a clean counter or other work surface and brush with melted butter.
4. Place a large skillet over medium-high heat. Place a tortilla, buttered side down, into skillet and place one-quarter of the cheese mixture over entire tortilla. Place one-quarter of the chicken mixture over half of the tortilla, leaving the other half empty. Cover chicken mixture with one-quarter of the avocado slices. Cook until cheese begins to melt, 3 to 4 minutes.
5. Fold tortilla in half over avocado and chicken mixture. Continue cooking until tortilla is lightly golden on both sides and cheese begins to ooze. Repeat with remaining quesadillas and ingredients.
6. Avocado Citrus Cream: Meanwhile, combine ingredients in a blender or food processor and blend until smooth.
7. Cut quesadillas into wedges; serve with cream. **THE CANADIAN PRESS/CALIFORNIA AVOCADOS**

Simple can be great

Want to build a better salad? Lose the chill, ditch some of the fruit and get the proportions of the vinaigrette right.

That's the advice of Jacques Pepin, star of Essential Pepin, which will air in the fall.

Pepin says a great salad can be simple as long as the ingredients are fresh and the proportions are right. Too much fruit produces a salad that is too sweet. Likewise, most salads taste best when served cool, but not cold.

"Also important is the use of great-quality oils and vinegars," he said. "And these should be mixed in the proper ratios: one part vinegar to three parts oil."

Pepin offers a warm salad of bacon or pancetta tossed with white beans. It is a hearty salad but still feels fresh.

Ingredients:

- 250 g (8 oz) slab bacon or pancetta, cut into 1-cm (1/2-inch) pieces
- 1 medium onion, chopped (about 250 ml/1 cup)
- 6 garlic cloves, crushed and chopped
- 2 cans (398 ml/14 oz) navy or other small white beans, rinsed and drained
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) salt
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) chopped fresh parsley
- 45 ml (3 tbsp) red wine vinegar
- 45 ml (3 tbsp) olive oil
- 5 ml (1 tsp) ground black pepper

Preparation:

1. In saucepan over low heat, place bacon. Sauté, covered, for 8 minutes, or until meat has rendered much of its fat. Add onion and garlic and cook, stirring, for about 5 seconds.
2. Transfer contents of saucepan, fat and all, to a large bowl. Add beans, salt, parsley, vinegar, oil and pepper. Mix well, then serve warm or at room temperature.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/ ESSENTIAL PEPIN BY JACQUES PEPIN (HOUGHTON MIFFLIN HARCOURT, OCTOBER, 2011)

Putting unity in CommUnity

Green school grants helping kids across Canada build a greener future for themselves in their own backyard

BEN KNIGHT
GREEN@METRONEWS.CA

Small ideas can lead to big changes. That's why WWF-Canada has teamed up with Loblaw to offer Green CommUnity School Grants to students and schools who want to help build a cleaner, greener world.

"We developed the program to tap into the excitement, passion and sense of community that comes with schools," says Christina Topp, WWF VP of marketing and communications. "To drive everyday change in the school environment, and in the broader community."

Composting, gardening, solar energy, recycling programs — any innovative idea from any school, anywhere in Canada, can receive up to $5,000 in financial backing.

"We've been doing this program for two years, and it's great fun to look at the applications," says Topp.

"Bike recycling programs, and gardens, and worm recycling! It's phenomenal."

Grants have been awarded to large inner-city schools, tiny one-room schoolhouses, and almost every kind of classroom in between.

"You'll have students doing everything from biodiversity and natural projects outside to solar panels, to creating bio-fuel buses," Topp enthuses. "Whatever the problem is, they're thinking about it and coming up with solutions."

Peggy Hornell, senior director of community investment at Loblaw, says the program arose from one of the supermarket chain's ongoing environmental efforts.

From schools to sponsors, this simple, open-ended program is impressing and delighting everyone who gets involved.

"There is certainly room for expansion," Topp concludes.

"But with kids — if we get them to adopt green ways of living from childhood — we don't need to change behaviours. It just becomes the everyday way they live."

CHEWING ON BPA

My son chews on his crib railing protector. It says it's BPA- and phthalate-free, but made of plastic #4 or PVC. If I don't use it, he'll chew on the wood and paint. Is a plastic cover my only option? *Melissa of Sherwood Park, Alberta*

QUEEN OF GREEN

LINDSAY COULTER
GREEN@METRONEWS.CA

You're on the right track to avoid plastics that contain toxic chemicals, like Bisphenol-A (BPA) and phthalates. But I think you may have the plastic number and name confused. Let me explain.

Plastic #4 is actually low-density polyethylene or LDPE. It's less toxic than other plastics. PVC, on the other hand, is polyvinyl chloride or plastic #3.

It's widely used because it's cheap, durable, and easy to assemble. PVC is less safe because it's made with vinyl chloride which is cancer-causing.

It also poses serious environmental and health threats at all stages of its life cycle —from manufacturing to use to disposal.

The good news is that safer and cost-effective alternatives are already available for virtually every PVC product out there, including baby products.

You can find PVC-free teethers, pacifiers, bibs, bath toys, and even Halloween costumes. The Centre for Health, Environment and Justice suggests this jingle to help you remember: "bad news comes in threes, don't buy PVC."

Since your crib railing protector is BPA- and phthalate-free, it's likely as safe as it gets. The other option would be an organic cotton cloth cover.

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So why are we still wasting millions of pages annually on printing essays?

Toward a paperless post-secondary

With everything from shopping to global communication available at the click of a mouse, it's surprising that the archaic practice of handing in printed papers has endured at most Canadian universities. After all, institutions of higher learning are supposed to be hotbeds of innovation.

Todd Pettigrew, an English literature professor at Cape Breton University in Nova Scotia, sums it up this way: "Habit."

"I think that's why I didn't do it earlier. I was just in the habit of getting papers on paper and grading them with a pen. I had always done it that way, so I hadn't really thought about going completely paperless," Pettigrew said.

"There may be still a lingering sense that things that don't exist on hard copy are somehow not as real as things that are in a physical paper form that you can touch," he added.

Last fall, a colleague at McMaster University in Hamilton inspired Pettigrew to begin asking his students to email him their essays as Word files. Pettigrew wrote electronic comments, graded the papers, turned the files into PDFs and emailed them back.

Using email allowed him to have a clear record of when students had sent their papers in and an easy way to keep them on file for the rest of the year. It also eliminated the hassle of lugging stacks of paper around and trying to return essays to students who weren't in class.

"There may be still a lingering sense that things that don't exist on hard copy are somehow not as real as things that are in physical form that you can touch."
TODD PETTIGREW, ENGLISH LITERATURE PROFESSOR

The process is also easier for students, who no longer need to squint at their professor's hand-written chicken scratch in the margins of their papers.

"Submitting something online means I won't have to rescue my paper from the giant piles when everyone is asked to pick them up after class all at once," said Krislyn Fernandes, 23, a recent graduate of the health sciences program at the University of Ottawa.

Fernandes submitted a number of her class assignments using an online system called Blackboard. She prefers submitting her papers this way because it's faster and allows her more flexibility, she said.

Virtual papers are pretty mundane stuff to a generation raised on Internet technology. Hayleigh Wronski, who only submitted work electronically once during her English degree at Ottawa's Carleton University, says she found the process no different than submitting papers the regular way.

"I like the decreasing paper usage," said Wronski. "Otherwise it was just like how we usually submit things."

HO-CAPE BRETON UNIVERSITY/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Todd Pettigrew, left, an English literature professor, says grading papers electronically allows him to provide students with more extensive feedback.

Pettigrew said he doesn't see himself ever returning to paper.

"I find that the comments that I write on the electronic papers are better quality because I'm not worried about trying to fit them in the margins or in between lines," he said.

Grading papers electronically also gives him the option of adding web links into the comments.

So a student having trouble with commas, for instance, can receive a link to a website that explains proper usage.

"There's a lot of potential with paperless grading," Pettigrew said. "I think I'm still discovering that."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Summertime and the nine-to-five ain't easy

Yes the birds are singing and you're stuck at your cubicle, but why not bring some of that sunshine and happiness inside?

ISTOCK

Aching to spend some time in the great outdoors? Ask if to work a little earlier and leave a littler earlier so you can soak up some of the remaining rays.

It's summer and eerily quiet in the office. Your cubicle neighbour took off to the cottage and is sure to return relaxed and a full shade darker while you remain the same—pasty and kind of sickly looking. You stare wistfully out the window and wish you could be out enjoying the sun.

To keep motivated and positive this summer when you're cooped up indoors, here are some helpful tips:

Colourful clothing

Now is the time to bust out your pinks, yellows, and brilliant blues. How you dress can determine how you feel and heighten your mood. Just be sure to stick with your company's dress code and be tasteful (a.k.a. no flip flops or shorts).

Brighten someone's day

Bake cookies for your fellow sunshine-deprived colleagues. It will be the perfect pick-me-up for long afternoons and may even start a trend of sharing homemade goodies around the office for the summer.

You can also make someone smile overseas. By sponsoring a child with a charity like Christian Children's Fund of Canada (ccfcanada.ca), you can show a child in need that you care.

Ask for flexible hours.

See if your employer will let you come in to work earlier so you can leave earlier and enjoy the summer weather. Or ask to work longer hours during the week so you can have Friday afternoons off.

Get out there.

Pick a parking spot further away from the front doors so you'll spend more time walking outside. At lunch, go out with colleagues or picnic on the grass. Try to schedule meetings outside or at a nearby park if possible.

Be thankful.

Though it's no fun to be staring at a computer when it seems that everyone is out soaking up the sun, remember that the job market is tough and being employed is worth celebrating.

Besides, you can save up your vacation days and enjoy time off during non-peak seasons—meaning less crowds and even better, less cost.

NEWS CANADA

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This could be the turning point in your life... Even if you don't have money today!

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A friendlier feeding of the front lawn

Having gone green early, one couple's business is blooming Have they had time to stop and smell the roses?

TURNING POINT

TERESA KRUZE
LIFE@METRONEWS.CA

"Being an entrepreneur is having a vision and sticking to it. Sometimes you're on the edge of insanity but I think the companies that succeed are the people that push through the hard times and make it."

Tammy Lawrence and husband Dave knew they were on to something big 15 years ago when they started developing organic lawn-care products. They were ahead of the curve and the pesticide bans that would sweep across Canada.

Years of costly research and development followed and now their company, Turf Revolution, based in Ayr, Ont., is set to grow 74 per cent this year. The business is exciting and they just expanded into the U.S. market, but Tammy admits guiding a company through the recent global recession has taken a huge toll on their lives.

"I wish we had known about the unexpected costs. We didn't anticipate how much growth we would have and how much cash flow we would need but I feel the breakthrough is around the corner. We just have to keep forging ahead."

Greener greens

Organic Fertilizer Market

- Revenue of $160 million a year
- Market expected to grow 30 per cent over next five years
- Recent survey found 90 per cent of home owners want non-chemical products
- Using organic lawn products means less water and mowing

Source: Turf Revolution, turfrevolution.com

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▶ Tammy Lawrence, president and owner of Turf Revolution.

So much more than selling some clothes

BOOK REVIEW

CRAIG LUND
LIFE@METRONEWS.CA

Recall your most recent shopping trip, and chances are your experience whether positive or negative was most likely influenced by your interaction with a retail sales associate.

Caitlin Kelly, a veteran journalist facing declining opportunities for quality paying writing assignments, picked up a retail gig in an upscale neighbourhood mall to create some additional part-time income.

In her book, Malled, she journals her two year retail stint.

"I have never worked in any job that paid so little for such hard work," says Kelly.

Even though 70 per cent of the U.S. economy relies on its GDP from consumer spending, "retail sales associates, clerks, floor walkers, team members – whatever you choose to call them — remain oddly invisible in the media."

Kelly's book offers some sobering insights into this gruelling and highly under appreciated job. Kelly attributes the silence because "most workers doing these tough jobs for low wages are those least able to afford losing them... they have powerful incentive to remain silent."

The fact however is that companies that have figured out how to keep their staff happy by providing fair wages, benefits, training and a safe work environment clearly outperform their competitors. Why? When over 85 per cent of buying decisions take place at the store a "lousy or lazy clerk can send you spinning right back onto the street, frustrated, empty-handed, and indignant – or a good one can help you happily spend all sorts of money on items you hadn't planned to purchase that day, maybe ever."

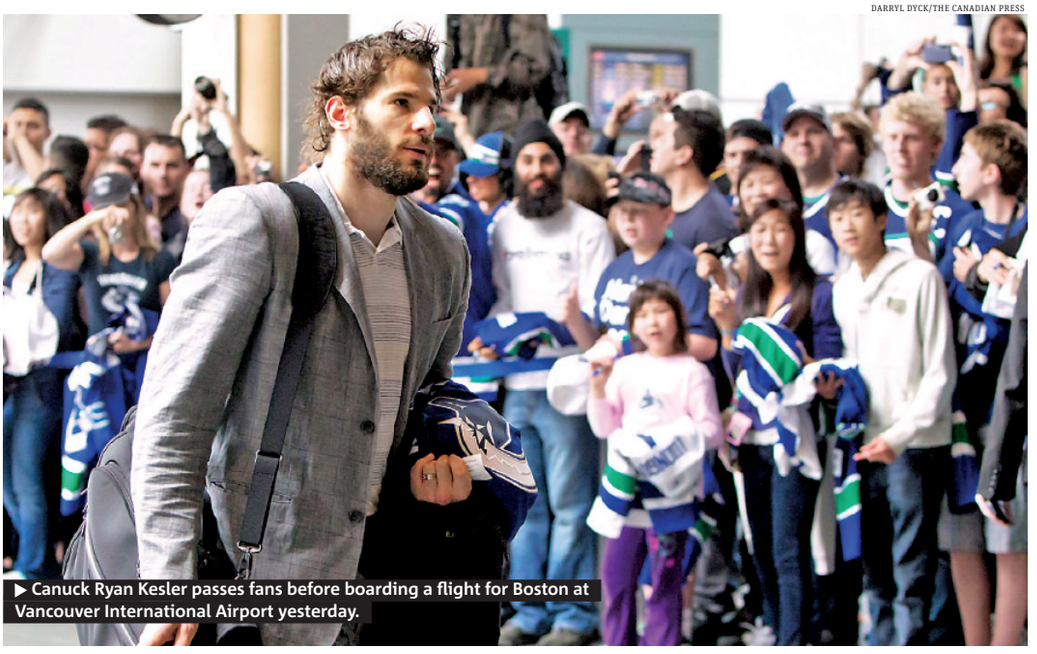
Told from the perspective of an experienced professional, Kelly's insights offer a sympathetic look into the backrooms of the gleaming sales floors we peruse... I for one will certainly be more patient and friendly on my next shopping trip.

CRAIG LUND, IS THE PRESIDENT OF MARKETING SERVICES FIRM MARKETING TALENT INC. AND CAN BE REACHED AT CLUND@MARKETINGTALENTINC.COM OR ON TWITTER @CRAIGLUND

CANUCKS GAME DAY

SCOTT RINTOUL
VANCOUVER@METRONEWS.CA

DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS



▶ Canuck Ryan Kesler passes fans before boarding a flight for Boston at Vancouver International Airport yesterday.

One more for the road

A second chance. An opportunity to move on from a past that is both cherished and haunting at the same time. Seventeen years after the Stanley Cup narrowly eluded Vancouver's grasp, a new group of Canucks is in the same spot their predecessors encountered the night of June 14, 1994. Like then, the environment will be a hostile Original Six arena, but there are two differences. This time the Canucks are favoured to win and this time there is margin for error, though no player will admit it.

Last week's display in Boston doesn't inspire confidence in the Canucks' ability to close out this series on the road, but Vancouver has been remarkably consistent over the past seven months: It has not lost three straight road games since November. But the Bruins are hot at home, having won five straight playoff games at TD Garden and nine of their last 10.

The Conn Smythe race seems to be down to Tim Thomas and Roberto Luongo, with many speculating that Thomas will be named MVP of the playoffs regardless of who wins. But Luongo has already blanked the Bruins twice in the series and one more shutout would equal the record for most goose eggs in a cup final, which is shared by Martin Brodeur (2003) and Frank McCool (1945).

HARRY HOW/GETTY IMAGES

Less is more

The NHL's top offensive team during the regular season has set a new standard for lack of production for a potential Stanley Cup champion. Through the first five games of the series, the Canucks have scored just six goals, the fewest of any team that has led the Stanley Cup final 3-2.

DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Travel bug

No Vancouver line has been more bipolar in terms of offensive output during these playoffs than the trio of Maxim Lapierre, Jannik Hansen and Raffi Torres. At home, Vancouver's third line has combined for seven goals, eight assists and is +17. On the road, the unit has produced just one goal, three assists and is a cumulative -6.

JULIE JACOBSON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quotable keepers

"I've been pumping his tires ever since the series started. I haven't heard one nice thing he's had to say about me, so that's the way it is."
Luongo on Thomas

"I guess I didn't realize it was my job to pump his tires. I guess I have to apologize for that."
Thomas's response to Luongo's comments

JIM ROGASH/GETTY IMAGES

Road show

Though home teams have rewarded their fans with 16 wins in the past 18 cup final games, it's a different story with the clinching victory. The past three champions (Detroit, Pittsburgh, Chicago) have all closed out the final on the road. Only three times in Stanley Cup history has the home side won all the games over the course of the series.

4 sports

Quoted

"If I could go back, I'd wish he didn't get hurt but I don't think it would change my decision on the play. I've got to step up and be physical, that's part of my game. It's just unfortunate."
AARON ROME ON HIS HIT ON NATHAN HORTON, WHICH DREW A FOUR-GAME SUSPENSION.

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Mavs win NBA crown

MAVERICKS	HEAT
105	95

WILFREDO LEE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Dallas Mavericks, from left, Dirk Nowitzki Jason Kidd, Jason Terry and Shawn Marion celebrate winning the NBA championship.

For Dirk Nowitzki, the resumé is complete. He's an NBA champion.

For LeBron James, the agonizing wait continues for at least one more year.

Avenging what happened five years ago in perfect turnabout style, the Dallas Mavericks won their first NBA title by winning Game 6 of the final in Miami 105-95 last night — celebrating on the Heat's home floor, just as Dwyane Wade and his team did to them in the 2006 title series. The Mavericks won four of the series' last five games, in a series victory that could not have been sweeter.

"I really still can't believe it," said Nowitzki, who had 21 points and took home finals MVP honours.

"Tonight," Jason Terry said, "we got vindication."

James did not and his year ends the way they all have so far — without an NBA title. He scored 21 points for Miami, shook a few hands and departed before the Mavs tugged on their championship hats and T-shirts. Chris Bosh had 19, Mario Chalmers 18 and Wade 17 for the Heat.

"We worked so hard and so long for it," Nowitzki said. "The team has had an unbelievable ride."

So did the Heat, but theirs wasn't a joyride.

"You're never really prepared for a moment like this," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said. "Neither team deserved this championship more than the other, but Dallas earned it."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Thomas appears in line for Conn Smythe

THE HOCKEY NEWS

RORY BOYLEN
VANCOUVER@METRONEWS.CA

If the Vancouver Canucks win the Stanley Cup in enemy territory tonight, will a member of the championship team be recognized as MVP of the playoffs?

Ask that question two rounds ago and it's a definite yes. Ryan Kesler was proving he's the engine that drives this team with a terrific showing of determined two-way play against Chicago and, especially, Nashville. Heck, even before he had scored a goal in the post-season, Kesler was being lauded as a Conn Smythe candidate because his production was coming at a time when the Sedins were still finding their playoff legs.

But Kesler's sizzle softened and now against Boston he's gone scoreless with a minus-4 rating in his past four games.

So what about the actual points leader on the team, Henrik Sedin? Last year's Hart Trophy winner is already a proven MVP and has a chance to take over the scoring lead for all teams and pass Boston's Devid Krejci. But while the Conn Smythe is for playoff MVP there is added weight to the final, and Henrik has yet to get a point. He is also a minus player, though his defensive play has been solid, and he only has two goals. Yes, he's a playmaker, but an MVP has to be a difference-maker at key moments too.

Further arguments could be made for Daniel Sedin, but it's hard to say he's even been the best player on his own team. Roberto Luongo? He's been great at times, but he hasn't been the best goalie in the post-season.

Which takes us to Tim Thomas.

Not settling on a record-breaking .939 save percentage in the regular season, Thomas has a .937 mark in the playoffs and a goals-against average that is staggeringly close to two. His three shutouts are one behind Luongo, but Thomas has easily been Boston's best player. Without Thomas, Boston's weak power play would have done the Bruins in long, long ago.

There have been many good round-by-round performances from individual Canucks, but not one player can stand up to what Thomas has done for his team.

Vancouver's was a deep team effort. They did it with scoring from the top of the lineup all the way down to Maxim Lapierre and Chris Higgins. They also did it with strong defence from the best of the back end, but also from fill-ins such as Chris Tanev and even Aaron Rome. They did it with great goaltending for most of the way from their No. 1, but also got positive contributions from backup Cory Schneider.

Much can still change in the debate over the next 60 minutes of hockey and especially if it goes to Game 7. But if the theme of low-scoring continues and works in Vancouver's favour in Game 6, don't be surprised if the Conn Smythe goes to the losing side.

And don't be upset or feel slighted either. That Thomas guy sure deserves it.

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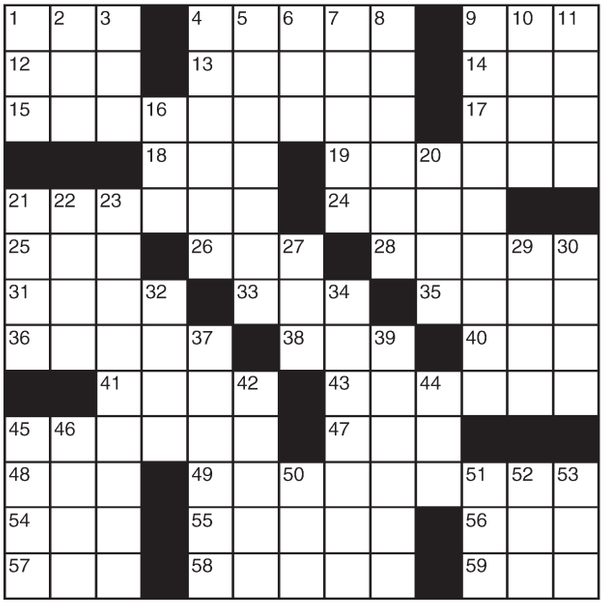
Crossword



Across
1 Gorilla
4 Year-end visitor
9 Col. Sanders' chain
12 Droop
13 Up to the point that
14 Ultra-modernist
15 Tennessee city
17 Cheerios ingredient
18 Moving truck
19 Makes into law
21 Revealing swimsuit
24 Polio vaccine pioneer
25 Director Howard
26 Explosive letters
28 Leaf pore
31 Teensy bit
33 A Gabor sister
35 Get an — effort
36 Consume fully
38 Priestly vestment
40 Workweek end (Abbr.)
41 Weeded, in a way
43 Rented
45 Wild horse
47 Antiquated
48 Have a bug
49 It's all in your head
54 Hockey surface
55 "What's in —?"
56 Rowing need
57 — Angeles
58 Acquires
59 Resort

Down
1 Request
2 Skillet
3 Id counterpart
4 Learned one
5 Foolish
6 Super Bowl org.
7 Stories
8 Sports venues
9 Cheaper copies
10 Accomplishment
11 Barracks beds
16 Louis —
20 Can. prov.
21 Scottish hillside
22 Greek vowel
23 Flaws in lumber
27 Dam org. of 1933
29 Additional
30 Sahara-like
32 Unstable particle
34 "May I do that for you?"
37 Eat like a bird
39 Scarlett O'Hara and her ilk
42 Karan of fashion
44 Citrus beverage
45 Jump (out)
46 Puerto follower
50 Erstwhile acorn
51 Two, in Tijuana
52 Space
53 Historic time

▶ Friday's answer

T	H	Y	■	G	E	L	■	O	P	E	R	A	
H	O	E	■	A	L	E	■	L	E	G	I	T	
R	U	M	■	B	O	A	R	D	R	O	O	M	
E	R	E	■	S	I	D	E	S	■	■	■	■	
W	I	N	K	■	S	S	E	■	C	A	P	O	
■	■	■	E	V	E	■	F	L	A	G	O	N	
C	H	I	L	I	■	■	■	E	L	O	P	E	
H	A	R	L	E	M	■	B	A	Y	■	■	■	
A	W	A	Y	■	E	D	U	■	X	R	A	Y	
■	■	■	■	A	O	R	T	A	■	E	R	A	
B	O	A	R	D	W	A	L	K	■	H	E	X	
U	N	D	U	E	■	P	E	I	■	A	N	I	
D	O	Z	E	N	■	E	R	N	■	B	A	S	

Sudoku

		6	7			5	2	
7						6		3
	8			4				1
	9				7	2		
			2		8			
		1	5				8	
4				2			3	
9		5						2
	7	3			6	4		

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Friday's answer ▶

5	8	1	6	3	2	4	9	7
7	4	9	8	1	5	3	2	6
2	3	6	4	7	9	1	8	5
1	6	4	5	2	7	9	3	8
3	2	5	9	8	1	7	6	4
9	7	8	3	4	6	2	5	1
6	9	3	7	5	4	8	1	2
8	1	7	2	6	3	5	4	9
4	5	2	1	9	8	6	7	3

Send a KISS

You can now post your kiss, and read even more kisses, online at metronews.ca/kiss.

Tai-On
Hey, Tai-On. Wherever you are... If, by chance, you are reading this, then you probably would know that our conversation between us was good and... I just miss you. I wish we could have made contact with each other...
LG

Mr. C
As we get closer to our wedding day in August, I'm so happy we're taking all these important steps together. I couldn't be happier than I am with you. I love you muffin!
MISS D

bubba flinch
happy 5 months boo! i love you more than anything in the whole universe. tank+stacey=<3 lol, through thick & thin. xoxo.
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Today's horoscope

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

♈ Aries March 21-April 20 Now is the time to say sorry and get things back to how they used to be.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21 Lighten up and stop worrying about things that are unlikely to happen, now or in the future.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21 Something that only a short time ago seemed to be difficult if not impossible will now seem ridiculously easy.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 Family problems will be less intense as from today.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23 If there is something you have wanted to say but felt unable to put into words you'll get past that blockage today.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22 If you have been deceiving yourself about the true state of your money situation the truth will come out today.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 So many of the things you have been getting uptight about are not worth the effort.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 Don't waste time looking back and regretting what happened. Look forward and start making things happen.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 Dreaming is one thing – doing can be a bit more of a challenge.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 Make sure important people know you exist and what you can do.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 Something you have always believed in may not be as simple as you had assumed.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20. You have not made the most of your resources of late, but you can still do something about it.

SALLY BROMPTON

Caption contest

MARK LENNIHAN/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RICK THORPE

LEE JIN-MAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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